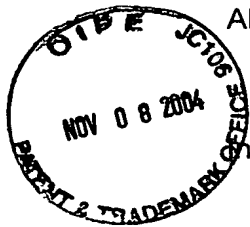


3627
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ARK:jsg110404/3671001.RES

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

On re Application of:

Applicant : Raymond A. Galietti
Serial No. : 09/615,867
Filed : July 13, 2000
For : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TEXT DATA
MANAGEMENT AND PROCESSING
Examiner : Michael A. Cuff
Art Unit : 3627
Attorney Docket No. : 367.1.001

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

ON November 4, 2004

NAME Jill S. Garretson

SIGNATURE *Jill S. Garretson*

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

November 4, 2004

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of August 25, 2004. All of Applicant's claims (claims 1-23) stand rejected as obvious over Hartrick et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,532,920) in view of Howell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,276,901).

The Office Action states that Hartrick et al. shows all of the limitations of the claims except for specifying details of the user profile such as storage, content and

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use and validation and except for the use of a time stamp and limited access. Howell et al. is stated to teach a system for controlling group access to electronic objects in order to provide greater security on access to the library information. The Office Action concludes that it would have been obvious to modify the Hartrick et al. system to make use of the Howell et al. system for controlling group access to electronic objects. The rejection is hereby traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the prior Office Action of September 11, 2003, all of the claims were rejected as obvious over Hartrick et al. alone. The amendments to the claims submitted in response to that Office Action were sufficient to distinguish the claims over Hartrick et al. alone because in the present Office Action Howell et al. was cited in combination with Hartrick et al. to reject the same claims. As indicated below, the combination of Hartrick et al. and Howell et al. do not render the claimed invention obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Hartrick et al. is directed to a royalty payment system wherein the author or publisher of a soft copy book specifies the royalty amount. He wants to be paid by the users who copy of the book or individual chapters of the book. As indicated at column 4, beginning at line 44 the publisher includes royalty payment information either within the structured document text of the book or in a royalty payment information file. This is further shown in column 7, lines 1-8 wherein the memory 96 is stated to store first and second book data as well as a royalty building program.

The user of the Hartrick et al. system can obtain any soft copy book or part thereof within the entire library database of the publisher and author. There was no restriction placed on access to the library by any user so long as the user is willing to pay the royalty required in accordance with the royalty paying system which is the subject of the Hartrick et al. invention.

In the present invention, step (b) of the claimed process requires establishing a user profile data base in the central computer for storing a plurality of individual profiles. Of particular importance is that each individual user profile is associated with a finite list of one or more electronic publications which is selected from the entire set of publication referred to as a library database. The individual user does not have access to the entire library database for any reason. One of the key features of the present invention is to provide restrictions on what the individual user can access from the library database.

Howell et al. provides a method in a data processing system of controlling access by groups of users. The reference does this by establishing a group identification for a selected subset of users within the data processing system. The method provides for listing the group identification as an individual user within the explicit list of individual users permitted access to the particular objects stored within the data processing system library service.

Thus, Howell et al. enables a select group of individuals to be viewed as an individual user to gain access to a library system. Even if the Howell et al. system

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were properly incorporated into Hartrick et al., the users, whether an individual or a group (as taught by Howell et al.) would have access to the entire library database because the Hartrick et al. system depends on complete access to the database so long as a proper royalty has been paid. The Hartrick et al. system would not operate in its intended matter if there were restrictions placed on the users (other than payment of a royalty). The entire purpose behind Hartrick et al. is to enable users who are willing to pay a royalty to have access to all of the publications within the library database.


Contrary to Hartrick et al. and the combination of Hartrick et al. and Howell et al., the present invention purposely restricts access to the database by an individual. The individual has access only to a select group of publications and does not have access to any of the other publications in the library database. This is best illustrated by reference to a high school student and a publishing company that publishes text books for the high school student. Each high school student can gain access to the database but only to the extent that the student has been assigned text books for his or her particular class. The student can gain access to the entire text book or portions thereof including homework assignments through the proper identification code. However, if the student, as in the Hartrick et al. reference seeks to gain access to other text books, access will be denied whereas in Hartrick et al. access will be accepted and indeed encouraged.

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It is therefore respectfully submitted that the present claims are patentable over Hartrick et al. in combination with Howell et al. and early passage to issue of the present application is therefore deemed proper and is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with this matter. However, if any fee is due, it should be charged to Deposit Account No. 23-0510.

Respectfully submitted,


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